

April 4, 1977

LB 353, 86, 498, 511,
513, 514

SPEAKER LUEDTKE PRESIDING

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Record your presence. Record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President. Mr. President, read Select Committee Reports from Enrollment and Review on page 1248 of the Journal. LB 353 correctly re-engrossed. LB 86, 498, 511, 513, and 514 correctly engrossed. Signed Senator Cullan, Chairman.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The reason Lieutenant Governor Whelan was not here this morning is that he slipped playing tennis and he broke his left elbow and you know he is left-handed. It is in a cast and it's going to be kind of difficult to maneuver with his left arm in a cast. He is back in the office but he will not be able to be over here. He'll come back over here Wednesday, see how he's doing. That's the reason he was not here. I thought I better make an explanation. He said the patient is doing well but he can't do much with that cast on his left arm. I don't believe that bears repeating. He's going to have to find a different racket, he says. Thank you. We are ready then to proceed with Item 8 on the agenda, rules changes.

CLERK: Rule changes are found on page 1134 of the Legislative Journal. The first one refers to the rule change found on page 459 of the Legislative Journal, except to change 3 and read 5.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS PRESIDING

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Senator DeCamp are you ready for that particular rule change?

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. We have about half a dozen, about six rule changes we'd like to get taken up today. I'll try to explain them and be as brief as possible. The idea behind most of them is to make things more efficient, expedite things particularly in the closing days here of the session so that we will be able to handle most of our business. The other idea is to implement constitutional amendments that were passed in the last election to give us a legislative procedure for implementation of those constitutional rules. So the first one you can actually turn to page 459 and read it. It deals with bracketing motions. It establishes or sets up a procedure as to how to deal with bracketing motions. As you know now for example, this morning somebody makes a motion to bracket and then we spend up to a half hour, 45 minutes, even a couple hours sometimes just discussing whether we're going to bracket the bill. So what this would do is actually set a time limit or a system and the limit would be that the mover of the bracket motion and the introducer of the bill would each be allowed 5 minutes to give their arguments or up to 5 minutes to give their arguments as to whether it should or should not be bracketed and after that time, we would have a vote on the bracketing.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I'll be brief on these rules changes. I'm aware of some of them, not so much aware of others but I would be opposed to this one because when a bill comes to the floor it is no longer the exclusive property of the introducer. It has been dealt with by a committee and the